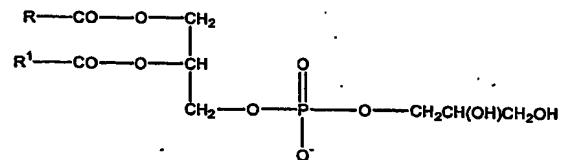


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. Use in the preparation of a medicament for prophylaxis or treatment of an acute inflammatory disorder in a mammalian patient of an effective amount of pharmaceutically acceptable bodies carrying an effective number of phosphate-containing groups presented or presentable on the surface of said bodies, the phosphate-containing groups comprising a plurality of phosphate-glycerol groups or groups convertible to such groups, to inhibit and/or reduce the progression of the acute inflammatory disorder, said bodies being of a size from about 20 nanometers (nm) to 500 micrometers (μ m).
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2. Use as claimed in claim 1 wherein the acute inflammatory disorder features an upregulation of at least one pro-inflammatory cytokine.
3. Use as claimed in claim 2 wherein the pro-inflammatory cytokine is selected from TNF- α , INF γ , IL-1 and IL-12.
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4. Use as claimed in claim 1 wherein the acute inflammatory disorder features a downregulation of at least one anti-inflammatory cytokine.
5. Use as claimed in claim 4 wherein the anti-inflammatory cytokine is selected from TGF- β , IL-10 and IL-4.
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6. Use as claimed in claim 5 wherein the anti-inflammatory cytokine is TGF- β .
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7. Use as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the bodies are essentially free of pharmaceutically active entities other than phosphate-containing surface groups.
8. Use as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the phosphate-glycerol groups constitute 60% - 100% of the phosphate-containing surface groups on the bodies.
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9. Use as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the phosphate-glycerol groups correspond to the formula:
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$$-O-P(=O)(OH)-O-CH_2-CH(OH)-CH_2-OH$$

10. Use as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the bodies are liposomes constituted to the extent of 60 – 100% by weight of a phosphatidyl glycerol phospholipid corresponding to the formula:

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where R and R' are independently selected from C₁ – C₂₄ hydrocarbon chains, saturated or unsaturated, straight chain or containing a limited amount of branching wherein at least one chain has from 10 to 24 carbon atoms.

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11. Use as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the acute inflammatory disorder is acute allergic or toxic reaction from surface contact with environmental allergen or drugs through anaphylactic shock.

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12. Use as claimed in claim 11 wherein the acute inflammatory disorder is allergic contact dermatitis or acute hypersensitivity.

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13. Use as claimed in any of claims 1-10 wherein the acute inflammatory disorder is acute neurological inflammatory injury.

14. Use as claimed in any of claim 1-10 wherein the acute inflammatory disorder is acute neuronal injury resulting from cardiopulmonary bypass surgery.